**UNITED NATIONS** **S**

**Security Council**

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# LETTER DATED 14 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been instructed by my Government to lodge a strong protest at the issuance of vital records certificates by the United Nations Interim Administrative Mission in Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia. In addition to being contrary to the mandate of the Mission, the certificates contain some entries that are in direct contravention of the status of Kosovo and Metohija and in breach of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999.

As can be seen from the enclosed document (see annex), the citizenship of the residents of Kosovo and Metohija is determined as that of Kosovo ("e Kosoves" in the enclosed birth certificate), although Kosovo and Metohija is an autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia and not an internationally recognized State. The document is also dismissive of the principle of bilingualism as the toponyms are rendered only in Albanian ("Vushtrri") and not in Serbian ("Vučitrn").

In addition to being contrary of the status of the Serbian province and Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), which reaffirms the sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in this autonomous province of one of its constituent Republics, the issuance of such documents under the auspices of the Mission discontinues any contact with the previous records of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Serbia, preventing the keeping of centralized records in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and enabling various abuses. In this particular case, the issuance of birth certificates of the type in the annex to the present letter, the ethnic Albanian residents of Kosovo and Metohija are enabled to avoid being entered into the books of vital records kept by the relevant authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and to manipulate those records.

In issuing such certificates, UNMIK adds to the creation of conditions for the secession of this Serbian province, which, by extension, sets a negative precedent of the condonation of tacit secession and its de facto recognition by the United Nations upon arrival of United Nations peacekeeping troops to be drawn upon by secessionist movements throughout the world.

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By its policy and practice, UNMIK has abused its mandate and derogated the rights of the host country that has voluntarily accepted United Nations peacekeeping troops, the sovereignty and territorial integrity of which are guaranteed by Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

UNITED NATIONS
United Nations Interim Administrative Mission in Kosovo

NATIONS UNIES
Mission d'Administration Intérimaire des Nations Unies au Kosovo

# BIRTH CERTIFICATE

EKSTRAKT
Nga libri amzë i të lindurve

IZVOD
Iz matične knjige rođenih

| | |
|---|---|
| Municipality / Komuna / Opština: Vushtrri | Original number / Numri rendor / Tekući broj: 4 |
| Place of register / Vendi i regjistrimit / Mesto upisa: Pantinë | |
| Date of registration / Data e regjistrimit / Datum upisa | Number of registry / Numri amzë / Matični broj: 34 |
| First name and surname / Emri dhe mbiemri / Ime i prezime: Bashkim Miftari | |
| Date of birth / Data e lindjes / Datum rođenja: 27.01.1970. | |
| Place of birth / Vendi i lindjes / Mesto rođenja: Oshlan | |
| Citizenship / Shtetësia / Državljanstvo: e Kosovës | |
| ID number / Numri personal / Lični broj: — | |

| Data on parents / Të dhënat mbi prindërit / Podaci o roditeljima | Father - Babai - Otac | Mother - Nëna - Majka |
|---|---|---|
| First name / Emri / Ime | Shaçir | Fahrije |
| Surname / Mbiemri / Prezime | Miftari | Miftari |
| Date of birth / Data e lindjes / Datum rođenja | | |
| Place of birth / Vendi i lindjes / Mesto rođenja | Oshlan | Lubovec |
| Citizenship / Shtetësia / Državljanstvo | e Kosovës | e Kosovës |
| Address of residence / Vendbanimi dhe adresa / Prebivalište i adresa | Oshlan | Oshlan |

KOSOVO • KOSOVA • KOSOVO • KOSOVA

| | |
|---|---|
| In / Në / U: Vushtrri | Signature of registrar / Nënshkrimi i zyrtarit / Potpis matičara |
| Date / Data / Datum: 29.10.1999. | |